



Kentucky Department of Parks News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Families Invited to Take 'Adventure Quest' through Kentucky State Parks in 2006
New Event Encourages Outdoor Exploration, Togetherness

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Have you ever thrown a tomahawk? Have you introduced yourself to a horse? Do you know the Kentucky State Fish?

If you participate in the Kentucky State Parks' "Family Adventure Quest" in 2006, you'll have a chance to do or learn all these things and much more, and possibly win a prize in the process.

The Family Adventure Quest is a scavenger hunt-type event that kicked off last October all across Kentucky's 52 parks. It will be in full swing throughout 2006, particularly during the parks' peak season.

The goal of the program, according to Deputy Parks Director John Kington, is to promote outdoor exploration and family togetherness. In a recent survey of leisure travelers, 71 percent of parents said they want to spend more time with their children, and 66 percent of kids said they want to do things with their parents they cannot do at home. "We designed the Family Adventure Quest to meet both of those requirements -- and to tap into everyone's natural sense of curiosity," Kington said. So don't be surprised if you see an influx of inquisitive families posing for zany photos, documenting names from tombstones, or finding a favorite menu item at your nearest Kentucky State Park this summer.

There are 25 quests in all. They incorporate recreation and history. No more than three can be completed at any single park.

Many of the quests must be documented by taking a photograph or having a parks' official stamp your "passport."

Families that complete all 25 "quests" receive a \$100 gift card to Kentucky State Parks. Those that complete 20 "quests" receive a \$50 parks gift card, and everyone with at least 15 completed quests is entered into a drawing for other prizes. Additionally, some of the photographs that are taken throughout the quest will be showcased in future Kentucky State Parks' publications.

The entry fee for Family Adventure Quest is \$15, which is a bargain since it includes a backpack, a disposable camera, and a \$10 parks' gift card. The quest continues through December 2006.

Entry forms are available online at <http://www.parks.ky.gov> and at state resort lodges. For more details, please call 1-800-255-PARK.

The Kentucky State Park System is composed of 52 state parks plus an interstate park shared with Virginia. The Department of Parks, an agency of the Commerce Cabinet, operates 17 resort parks with lodges -- more than any other state. Each year, Kentucky parks draw 7 million visitors and contribute \$317 million to the economy. For more information on Kentucky parks, visit our Web site at <http://www.parks.ky.gov>

The Family Adventure Quest will draw teams of amateur explorers into Kentucky's parks in 2006. Participants in the quest receive a backpack, a disposal camera and a \$10 gift card.

